



Atty. Dkt. No. 053466-0420

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Masato FUJIOKA *et al.*

Title: THERAPEUTIC AGENTS FOR INNER EAR DISORDERS  
CONTAINING AN IL-6 ANTAGONIST AS AN ACTIVE  
INGREDIENT

Appl. No.: 10/593,776

International Filing Date: 3/24/2005  
371(c) Date: 9/22/06

Examiner: Prema Maria MERTZ

Art Unit: 1646

Confirmation Number: 4182

**APPLICANTS' RESPONSE TO THE EXAMINER INTERVIEW SUMMARY**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Office Action dated August 27, 2008 and subsequent to telephonic interviews held between Examiner Prema Maria Mertz and the undersigned on August 25, September 13 and September 29, 2008.


The amendments to the claims have been made solely to advance prosecution and not in acquiescence to any rejection. Moreover, such amendments are made without prejudice or disclaimer of any subject matter removed by amendment, reserving all rights to pursue such subject matter in continuing applications.

Next, declarations concerning the biological deposits have been submitted, in accordance with the September interviews and 37 C.F.R. § 1.801 *et seq.* Accordingly, it is respectfully believed that all formalities have been complied with.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge or credit any fees regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorize payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date January 21, 2009  
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By   
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